

Appl. No. : 10/785,387
Filed : February 24, 2004

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

REMARKS

With this amendment Claims 12-31, 33-38, 40-50, 52-54 and 56-62 remain pending. Claims 1-11, 32, 39, 51, and 55 have been cancelled.

In the September 21, 2005 Office Action, Claims 12-24 and 56-62 were allowed. Claims 28, 32, 35, 39, and 51-55 were objected to for depending on a rejected base claim, but the Examiner stated that Claims 28, 32, 35, 39, and 51-55 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitation of the base independent claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1, 5, 6, 9-11, 34, 40, 42-44, 47, 48, 52-54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,425,487 to Emmott et al. Claims 2-4, 7, 8, 36, 37, 41, 45, 46, 49, 50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,425,487 to Emmott. Claims 25-31, 33, and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Emmott in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,643,624 to Phillippe et al.

In order to expedite allowance of the present application, rejected Claims 1-11 are cancelled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue Claims 1-11 in a continuation application.

In response to the objection to Claim 32, which depended directly from independent Claim 25, Claim 25 has been rewritten to include the elements of objected to Claim 32, and Claim 32 has been cancelled. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Claim 25 is now in condition for allowance.

Objected to Claim 28, which previously depended directly from independent Claim 25, has been rewritten as an independent claim, including all the elements of previously presented Claim 25. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Claim 28 is now in condition for allowance.

In response to the objection to Claim 39, which depended directly from independent Claim 34, Claim 34 has been rewritten to include the elements of objected to Claim 39, and Claim 39 has been cancelled. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Claim 39 is now in condition for allowance.

Objected to Claim 35, which previously depended directly from independent Claim 34, has been rewritten as an independent claim, including all the elements of previously presented

Appl. No. : 10/785,387
Filed : February 24, 2004

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Claim 34. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Claim 34 is now in condition for allowance.

In response to the objection to Claim 51, which depended directly from independent Claim 43, Claim 43 has been rewritten to include the elements of objected to Claim 51, and Claim 51 has been cancelled. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Claim 51 is now in condition for allowance.

In response to the objection to Claim 55, which depended directly from independent Claim 52, Claim 52 has been rewritten to include the elements of objected to Claim 55, and Claim 55 has been cancelled. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Claim 52 is now in condition for allowance.

Applicants reserve the right to prosecute claims amended herein in their unamended form in a continuation application.

Conclusion

Claims 12-24 and 56-62 are allowed. In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 25, 28, 34, 35, 43, and 52 are also in condition for allowance. Claims 26, 27, 29-31, and 33, which depend from, and further define Claim 25, are likewise in condition for allowance. Claims 36-42, which depend from, and further define Claim 34, are also in condition for allowance. Claims 44-50, which depend from, and further define Claim 43, are likewise in condition for allowance. Claims 53-54, which depend from, and further define Claim 52, are also in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request that Claims 25-31, 33-38, 40-50, and 52-54 be allowed.

Request for Telephone Interview

If there are any issues that can be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney of record at (310) 407-3461 or at the number set forth below.

Appl. No. : 10/785,387
Filed : February 24, 2004

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: December 21, 2005

By:



David N. Weiss
Registration No. 41,371
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(310) 551-3450

2221297
121905